# CAUSES OF THE WAR AS VIEWED BY "SUN" READERS

## READERS OF "THE SUN" ANALYZE MERITS OF STRUGGLE IN EUROPE JAPAN'S TRUE AIM CONTROL OF I

Justice of the Contentions of Germany, England, France and Russia Discussed-Dangers to the United States Pointed Out.

Spondent expresses it, been inundated with views of letter writers regarding Fails mediation conference threatened at the European war. As much of the one time to collapse altogether unless deluge as space will permit is herewith printed. THE SUN, it may be pertinent to remark, assumes no responsibility either for any opinions expressed or any preponderance of opinion upon one side or the other. Its sole endeavor is to present such letters as may be interesting to its readers of all shades of opinion and without regard to nationality. Its regret is that the exigencies of space prevent the publication of all the letters it has received.

#### SEES NO WARRANT TO CRITICISE GERMANY

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: May I have the privilege of uttering the following words of warning through the columns of your respected paper?

President Wilson's plea for the public to remain strictly neutral has special reference to the offer of mediation he recently extended to the warring Powers American. of Europe. If we display a tendency to blassed in our opinions the United States will prove unacceptable as a me-

four points upon which these gratuitous adverse criticisms of foreign affairs are exceedingly ill advised, namely:

First-The criticism of militarism. Second-The criticism of Austria's ac-

Third-The criticism of the violation by a powerful nation of neutrality of an inferior sovereign State.

abandoned attempt at mediation. militarism of Germany, which is a very urgent measure of self-defence, when we, a nation of unequalled latent power and resources, with no dangerous foes on our borders, with no entanging alliances and with 3,000 miles of water separating us the cause of water separating us the cause of the independence of the small from the scenes of European conflicts, the cause of the independence of the small have affoat to-day a tremendously forminations.

dable battle fleet, second to but one fleet; Britain's cooperation with France was

How can we, in view of our treatment of Spain, afford to condemn either Auscourt investigate for us the destruction of the Maine? Nay, nay; we proved to our own satisfaction that the Maine was proposals of neutrality. This she folcitizens or the Spanish Government di- marine power just now-and her troops with the outrage, we declared war to stand by France's side. on Spain—and spanked her well. What-ever high moral grounds we may have set forth to explain our retention of Cuba and Porto Rico these cannot exceed the justice of the seizure by the Ger-mans in 1870 of the province of Alsace-Lorraine, which was originally German

We recently refused to recognize the Huerta Government in Mexico (which several great Powers did recognize) because we claimed that its accession was irregular and rested upon assassination. Huerta protested that his installation as President pro tem. was entirely regular and that the killing was subsequent to this and occasioned purely by attempted flight on the part of the prisoners. Whatever may be the truth of this matter it is an undisputed fact that the present Servian Government is in office only as a direct result of the brutal murder by Servians of their own King and Queen.

Austria did not go so far as to refuse recognition to the new Servian Government, but she did very logically refuse to believe that such a Government would We recently refused to recognize the

to believe that such a Government would impartially investigate and punish the murder of Archduke Franz Ferdinand and his wife without the presence of Austria's representatives at the proceedings. This assumption was especially just in view of the fact that the murder was the ult of propaganda then very popular in

Why not look facts in the face? If ur unsolicited interference in Mexico our unsolicited interference in Mexico had led to a conspiracy there resulting in the murder of an American official, even much less prominent than a President-elect, we would have handed Mexico a very short and harsh ultimatum, and would have backed it up with our entire navy and with an army of some 500,000 men. As a matter of fact we were on the terms of decing all this for a comparatively. verge of doing all this for a comparatively

we would not recognize the Government we would not recognize the Government provides neutral position to the extent of raising the embargo on arms and thereby fostering a rebellion in a friendly nelghboring State? We excuse our interference on high moral grounds, but are we right? A great many Americans who have lived and worked in Mexico claim that we are backing the "wrong horse" and that matters will be worse instead of becoming better, and Europe evidently

cently explain the fact that after agree-ting to an armistice with the Huerta Gov-ernment we permitted the shipment of ranean is the second main area of strateneutrality as a military exigency when we violated Mexican territory by the forcible selzure of Vera Cruz (and of its waterwork: fifteen miles distant) as a military and of France and Belgium.

THE SUN has indeed, as one corre- | the success of a great rebellion in

we positively prevented any further direct shipment of arms to the Mexican rebels. Yet we are now ridiculing Germany's mediation in the Austrian matter, which failed because the Czar (who invited mediation) would not stop mobilizing his enormous army and even refused to explain the object of his mobilization

Is our position either fair or logical? New York, August 20. A. W.

#### ENGLAND'S ATTITUDE

an interview lately the German Chancellor said : "The most incomprehensible feature of the present conflagration is the attitude of Britain. What does England expect? Why does she fight?"

There is no doubt that the "Official German Press Bureau" in New York has circulated these questions, and because there is no "Official English Press Bureau"

diator, for nowadays the people of all truly great nations are known to be back of their Governments—Germany being no exception—despite the many odd benevolent attempts recently made to prove the contrary.

In the flood of recrimination that has arisen over the European war American letter writers are rapidly allowing themselves to be drawn into positions that are false and untenable, and are likely to expose us to a great deal of ridicule. For the simple reason that our own hands are by no means clean there are at least four points upon which these gratuitous.

The neutrality and territorial integrity of Belgium, to which Germany was also committed by a solemn treaty now infamously violated. A glance at the map of the situation for her own aggrandized all over the European war American Belgium would be about as acceptable to England to the total treaty obligations with England. Here the country and which, as a glance at the map and the history shows without possibility of contradiction, has edzed and plundered all over the European war american territorial integrity of the unfortunate contest now on in Europe. She is simply taking advantage will remind us that the neutrality and territorial integrity of the unfortunate contest now on in Europe. She is simply taking advantage will remind us that the neutrality and territorial integrity of the unfortunate contest now on in Europe. She is simply taking advantage will remind us that the neutrality and territorial integrity of the same vital territorial integrity of the same vital territorial integrity of the same vital territorial integrity of the unfortunate contest now on in Europe. She is simply taking advantage with the unfortunate contest now on in Europe. She is simply taking advantage with the unfortunate contest now on in Europe. She is simply taking advantage with the unfortunate contest now on in Europe. She is simply taking advantage with the unfortunate of the European will be about as acceptable to European will be about as acceptable to England as th

Powers guaranteeing Belgian neutrality are at least as strong to-day as they were in 1870, and we cannot take a more narrow view or a less serious view of our obligations than was taken by Mr. Glad-stone's Government in 1879."

And Mr. Gladstone, as Americans know, was no jingo! Not only the independence of Belgium Fourth—The criticism of Germany's dandoned attempt at mediation.

but of Luxemburg was set aside by the German scheme of invasion, and the German autocratic Government justified the How can we afford to condemn the words of Bismarck that in case of war

world?
we can we, in view of our treatment ain, afford to condemn either Ausdemand on Servia. or her action demand on Servia or her action quibbling about a treaty—whether we quent to Servia's refusal of this degree to have a Spanish of interest and that if she does take the part of the preservation and peace of his people and we will feel compelled to immediately his country all seem to me to call upon to service our present welfare and potential interests for the future.

A SIDNET LANIER.

BITATION WAS IN A SIDNET LANIER.

BICHMOND, VA. August 21.

PLEADS FAIR PLAY FOR from without and thereupon, lowed up by despatching her fleet to the table to connect either Spanish North Sea—the real strategic centre of

That Britain's cooperation was whole-hearted you can realize by reading Mr. Redmond's declaration of Irish patriot-

Redmond's declaration of Irish patriotism in the House of Commons.

"The wider knowledge of the real facts of Irish history," said Mr. Redmond, "has altered the view of the democracy of England toward the Irish question, and to-day I honestly believe that the democracy of Ireland will turn, with the utmost anxiety and sympathy, to England in every trial and every danger England in every trial and every damger

that may overtake it.
"To-day there are in Ireland two large bodies of volunteers. One of them sprang into existence in the north; another has sprung into existence in the south. "I say to the Government that they

may to-morrow withdraw every one of their troops from Ireland. I say that the coasts of Ireland will be defended from foreign invasion by her armed sons—and for this purpose armed Nationalist Catholics in the south will be only too glad to join arms with the armed Protestant Ulstermen in the north."

England's declaration to stand by the side of France was supported by the unanimous vote of the House of Commons, as it is supported to-day by the unanimous voice not alone of Britain, but of every section of her widespread

Britons everywhere with calm convic tion and with full consciousness of what this terrific conflict must involve, realize that anything would be better for their country-anything!-than to slink away like a frightened cur from the menace of the Prussian jackboot and risk the position upon Europe, of which Great ritain is a part, of the absolute dominance of a Power which can act as Germans have acted in this crisis

The sophistries of Prof. Muensterberg and other German pedants in this country trivial reason.

How can we afford to condemn Germany's violation of the neutrality of weaker States when we contemplate our treatment of Mexico? Did the fact that we would not recognize the Government we would not recognize the Government of the contemplate our treatment of Mexico? Did the fact that we would not recognize the Government of the recognize the government of the contemplate our treatment of the recognize the government of the contemplate our treatment of the contemplate our tr citizens and that as regards the second generation born in the United States one is virtually indistinguishable from the

matters will be worse instead
oming better, and Europe evidently
with them.
aside from this, how can we deaside from this, how can we dege cargoes of arms for use against different d

works afteen miles distant) as a military exigency to prevent the landing of arms for the Mexican Government?

In what respect has Luxemberg suffered through the passage of German troops (and in what respect would Belgium have suffered in permitting a similar passage of troops) other than in such a blow to her national pride as we coolfy inflicted without even the formality of previous promises of indemnity and territorial integrity, such as Germany offered?

Mexico has no powerful friends. By the treat of our original neutrality, by the reversal of our original neutrality, by the reversal of our original neutrality, by the foreithe exicuse of the mad dog of the European and that that is so because of the fact that England that that is so because of the Americans' impartiality and not because of their ignorance of European-Asiation and that that is so because of the Americans' impartiality and not because of their ignorance of European-Asiation and that that is so because of the Americans' impartiality and not because of their ignorance of European-Asiation and that that is so because of the Americans' impartiality and not because of their ignorance of European-Asiation and that that is so because of the Americans' impartiality and not because of their ignorance of European-Asiation and that that is so because of the Americans' impartiality and not because of their ignorance of European-Asiation and that that is so because of the Americans' impartiality and not because of their ignorance of European-Asiation and that that is so because of the Americans' impartiality and not because of their ignorance of European-Asiation and that that is so because of the Americans' impartiality and not because of their ignorance of European-Asiation and that that is so because of the Americans' impartiality and not because of their ignorance of European-Asiation and that that is so because of the Americans' impartiality and not because of their ignorance of European-Asiation and that their ignorance of European-Asiation and th

peace of Europe will be secured for another long period. PERCY S. BULLEN.

NEW YORK, August 19.

### CONTROL OF PACIFIC

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: In testimony of my competency to speak with respect to Japan and her ultimatum to Germany, I spent nearly five years in the Orient and travelled much in Japan. I think I know something of her and her people. My experience with them has forced upon me the conclusion that they are a non-moral people; that they have but little sense of honor and are utterly unworthy of the trust and confidence of the Occidental.

I have never doubted that a conflict be-tween the United States and Japan was inevitable sooner or later, and that it would have come before now but for the impoverished condition of Japan and the economic and political necessity of her first settling her score with Russia. The pimary reasons for a conflict be-

us and Japan are that we stand athwart the following ambitions and purposes of the Japanese, which will make contest inevitable and irrepressible Japan is determined to control the Pacifi and the trade of the Orient. She be ever for her own glory and her terri-torial and commercial aggrandizement. IN WAR DEFENDED

To the Editor of the Sun—sir: In interview lately the German Chancellor of a "Monroe Doctrine" of her own. She is obsessed with the conceit Orient of a "Monroe own. She is obsessed with the concent that she is superior to the white races, and it is a thorn in her flesh that the white races have not been willing to concede it or admit the Japs to their concede it or admit the Japs to their councils and countries upon terms of councils and countries upon terms of councils and countries upon terms of the English, Japanese, Servian, French, Russian and Belgian masses.

ing, when she thinks the time auspicious in the first place every American familiar with his country's history must bullabaloo she has raised over the Calistill feel anything but friendly toward still feel anything but friendly toward which fought against us

mercial equality.

There is no circumstance or necessity

"The honor and the interest of the zen realizes. It demands prompt and vigorous guaranteeing Belgian neutrality orous handling if we would postpone at least as strong to-day as they were It is a calamity that our country has at through Beignum certainly seems absultd the helm in such a crisis two such impractical doctrinaires as Mr. Wilson and Mr. Bryan, men who seem to prefer peace to national honor and the prestige of the mation.

It is a calamity that our country has at through Beignum certainly seems absultd in adough Beignum certainly seems absultd in account by the call of the call of the property of the string and the prestige of the property of the property of the call It is a calamity that our country has at

dove of peace and promulgating platitud-inous sentiments to lofty and altruistic inous sentiments to lofty and altruistic purposes and motives, but to deal with this situation in its practical aspects and so handle it now that it may not develop eventually to our detriment and possibly our undoing. If the President and Mr. Bryan are faithful to the best interests of our country now and for the future they will nip Japan's plans in the bud at once by giving her to understand in no uncertain terms that we will not regard with indifference her entrance into this contest and that if she does take the part indicated by her ultimatum to Germany we will feel compelled to immediately

RICHMOND, VA., August 21.

#### LIKES GERMANS, BUT NOT GERMANY'S MILITARISM

wanted war; this country does not want of Germans on account of objecting to war; the nations of the world do not want war. This is why we the American people are so bitter over the Germans, yes, toward Germany and

war; the nations of the world do not the alitude of want war. This is why we the American people are so bitter against the ruler of the German nation.

We like the German race individually. The double their militarism, the cocksureness of their officials in army and navy. We did not like it at Manila. The President's appeal not to take sides is right as far as lending aid, but no one can smother the hope in every American man manho

### ENGLAND'S SINCERITY

IN WAR ATTACKED To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: Some of our newspapers seem to have taken the position that England's war upon Germany was caused solely by the fact that German troops entered Belgium without the consent of the Belgian Government. Is it really any editor's opinion, which he desires to convey to his readment. Is it really any editor's opinion, they not vigorously resent. which he desires to convey to his readers, that England would have refrained or any other man with any spark of right from striking at Germany at this aporrespect left tolerate it? from striking at Germany at this apparently favorable opportunity if Germany had moved its forces into France directly rather than by way of Belgium?

Do the disposition of the French fleet, for the British Government, before the British people, if it caused such a sac-rifice of men and treasure, merely to punish Germany for passing over Belgian

It is difficult for me to understand how any one can seriously argue that Engany one can seriously argue that England's attack was caused by the invasion of Belgium and not by the same greed which caused her in Ireland, in French and Dutch India, in French Canada, in Dutch Africa, in Hongkong, in Dutch and Spanish West Indies and South America, in Dutch Australayia and in fact, all ca, in Dutch Australasia and, in fact, all over the world, to take what she wanted and to injure and destroy her competi-

tors whenever possible.

The apologists who advance the inadequate and improbable Belgian excuse seem to me to be the accusers rather than the defenders of Britain, unless we to assume that war is desirable Furthermore, it might merely as war. be noted that England already, before doing anything to aid Belgium, has seized sufficient of Germany's shipping and col-onies and destroyed enough of her trade to make a difference of millions of pounds

to the British.

One evening paper published a letter from William G. Willcox in which he intimated that the sympathy of the American people is with the Russian-Japanese-Servian-English-French-Belgian combina-

Suppose that then they continuously agitated in our State of New Mexico (formerly a part of their country of Mexico, Suppose that then they continuously agitated in our State of New Mexico (formerly a part of their country of Mexico, taken from it by force and still largely peopled by the same race) against the sovereignty of the United States. Then when one of our most prominent men with his wife went on official duty to the capital of New Mexico, they caused their deliberate murder. Remembering our premises that (as in Servia admittedly premises that (as in Servia admittedly is the case) these murderers never have been punished for their original assassinations, but actually are in control of the Government and are all the time actively engaged in trying to disrupt the United States, is it your opinion that the United States should have allowed them to put themesives on trial, judge their own cases and award their own punishments (?), or do you think that it would have been not only right but necessary for the United States if it were to exist as a responsible Government to be sure that the murderers and agitators were pun-ished and that the intriguing should stop? Now was not the Austrian-Servian situation very similar to that imaginary Mexican situation, only much more ag-

gravated? What we actually did do without any such necessity or provocation indicates what we would have done under those circumstances. What then would we have thought of some half civilized Colossus with an army six times as large as ours which had calmly prepared to suport our murderous, intriguing ad-versary and with his allies had endeav-

in this city I venture to give the English answer, which I am quite sure will be heartily indorsed by every impartial American.

To take the last question first, "Why cans to recognize and accept her people on terms of social, political and complete the content of the social of the last question first, "Why cans to recognize and accept her people on terms of social, political and complete the call feel anything but friendly toward that England which fought against us not as a civilized country but with the simply as a means of forcing Americans to recognize and accept her people on terms of social, political and complete that England which fought against us not as a civilized country but with the simply as a means of forcing Americans. tunity to strike at this country and which

or wrong, and England's apology that she could not permit Germans to march through Belgium certainly seems absurdly

place" She will emerge from a defeat of Germany greatly strengthened for that conflict with us to which she is looking forward and for which she is preparing. What reason is there to believe that Eng-

#### PLEADS FAIR PLAY FOR GERMANY'S CAUSE

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: THE SUNDAY SUN of the 16th brings a letter do not believe that the German people clising the Germans and the descendants wanted war; this country does not want of Germans on account of objecting to war; the nations of the world do

If news items were only published there could be no objections to them, but it is not that. It is the comments thereon and the editorials, marked by animosity, contempt, aye, even hatred, that have called out every man who wants fair play and has a spark of Ger man manhood left in his breast, be he

is right as far as lending aid, but no one can smother the hope in every American heart that the Kaiser will get his lesson and get it speedily.

THOMAS JEWETT HALLOWELL.

NEW YORK, August 21.

Wants fair play and has a spark of German manhood left in his breast, be he German or American born.

I am an American, born of German parents, who came here in 1852. I never saw Germany, but I admire it for its greatness, its art, culture, science, respectively. search and learning. I admire the Kaiser, the professor, the soldier, the peasant and workman, all of whom have made Germany great and glorious, and these men and these qualities belittled by people • • I refrain to speak

Do the disposition of the French neet, plainly showing reliance upon England country an organization of many thouspeeches of Sir Edward Grey seem consistent with such a view? Furthermore, what possible justification could there by who fought in the war between the North who fought in the war between the North country an organization of many thouwho fought in the war between the North and South for their adopted country escape military service! Slurs like these are uncalled for; they

are resented. The Germans from the very beginning had to fight to make their presence felt in this country. They often received any but scant recognition, al-though of all the immigrants who came to this land they were the most orderly and law abiding. They brought mor-learning, more money, more qualities than any of the others.

It is true of late the American paper been done and will not easily be forgot

How can the American feel kindly toward England? She is great, true, but only England's friend. Shall we Americans apologize for the American Revolution and the war of 1812? The English navy rules the sea; the Americans were informed of that the other day. "The Atlantic is clear of the enemy." Wait till American ships are searched in this war for contraband, then we will hear a howl go up, which at the present time is quiecent, although Japan, England's ally, is taking the first steps not only infimical to Germany but to America.

Perhaps in time we will be friendly with Germany, with the Kaiser, when our eyes are opened and our minds are clean by acknowledging the fact that England

lutely known to have 'murdered him as well as Mrs. Madero and a considerable number of their friends and then had set up and maintained a government?

That he is a paranoiac, a crazy man run-editorial should not pass unchallenged, and the consequent efforts of our fellow since it implies an attack, perhaps unin-editorial should not pass unchallenged, and the consequent efforts of our fellow since it implies an attack, perhaps unin-editorial should not pass unchallenged, and the consequent efforts of our fellow since it implies an attack, perhaps unin-editorial should not pass unchallenged, and the consequent efforts of our fellow since it implies an attack, perhaps unin-editorial should not pass unchallenged, and the consequent efforts of our fellow since it implies an attack, perhaps unin-editorial should not pass unchallenged.

You who have eyes to read and a mind descent.

We the undersigned consider ourselvest. to think read this and then do your own

Napoleon III., Emperor of France, sent Ambassador Benedetti with the message to William I., King of Prussia, then in Bath-Ems taking his summer vacation, that he (Napoleon) would not allow a German to become King of Spain. Napoleon's wife being Spanish he and she considered themselves next to Spain not only in the regressial, sense Wing only in the geograpulcal sense. King William said, "For my part the Span-lards may get a king where they please: but for harmony's sake I shall see that the German will not accept the crown

William thought the affair thereby con-cluded, but the Ambassador returned af-ter communicating with Napoleon and Eugenie with the message that that would not satisfy, but that a document should be created in which King William for him-self, his heirs and successors would bind himself never to allow a German to becom King of Spain. Thereupon King William rose, turned his eack upon the Ambarsador and said, "You see what I am doing. Report this as my answer."
Whereupon France declared war upon

This war declaration and proclamation came like a stroke of apoplexy upon Ger-many. There had not been even a stormy cloud on the political sorizon. Germany was entirely unprepared. The 79th infantry regiment in Emden, my native town, had to hasten back from summe encampment to their armory for their war equipments. Yet the Germans were in France before the French could get over he unprotected border and all the war

After France was vanquished and peace made the two former German provinces, Alsace and Lorraine, where German was spoken, came back to Germany, and Germany was so very tenient with France that they could pay the war indemnity right off. Germany could have got ten times as much.

times as much.

Since then, for forty-three and a half years of mobilized peace, France has been howling revenge. Germany, expecting invasion from day to day, had to keep herself armed in equal ratio. But France did not have courage to tackle Germany alone. In spite of having to keep near with

now turns west its mouth of rapacity.
England, fanning the French flame
of vengeance and the Russian flame of
rapacity, now uses these to the pitied, berapacity, now uses these to the pitted, be-nighted people and their poor populace for her own selfish end—to pull for Eng-land English chestnuts out of the fire in this their most desperate struggle for existence. I fear not for Germany; but my heart aches for the sacrifices she has to suffer and has to inflict. Germany will not lose. Besides from 8,000,000 to 12.-000,000 men, 3,000,000 German women will take the field. They are all willing to die for Fatherland and their Kaiser, whom they all adore.

HENRY F. RISCH, M. D. Brooklyn, August 18.

#### DESPICABLE ACT," SAY MEN OF GERMAN BLOOD

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: our editorial entitled "A Monstrous Im-udence" expresses just indignation over despicable act on the part of a small roup of Germans residing in America who for purposes best known to themselves at this time assume the title of "German Americans." Nevertheless your the entry of Japan into the great war | New York, August 21.

descent.

We, the undersigned, consider ourselves
Americans and nothing else. We are citizens of the United States and fully appreciate the opportunities which our great nation is extending to us. We cannot understand by what process of reasoning was should imagine ourselves bound by any

a greater proportion of Americans of Ger-man extraction than did the underhanded clique which tried to sow dissension in California by writing an uncalled for note be to other nationals domiciled o to the Governor of one State instead of ad-dressing the Chief Executive of a united nation—a treasonable act which should be punished as such.

Thousands of us Americans (we will not allow ourselves to be called anything else) have enjoyed the liberty and pros-perity of the United States for many years and we know no loyalty save to our own Government and recognize no inter-ests save those of this our country.

A GROUP OF AMERICAN OF GERMAN DESCENT. NEW YORK, August 21.

#### ASKS WHY "NO PRUSSIAN VILLAGE MOURNS'

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: The Army of the Meuse is burning its Saxon Schleswig duchy lost five boys on Wednes day and the petty district of which it is a part lost eighty in all on that day At Longwy the Hanoverian and Ba varian dead and wounded cumber earth. It was thus also in 1879-71. We have many thoughtful German

American fellow citizens; they know the reason. But also we have many unthinking German American fellow citizens. Will you not for their advantage detail the reason of state which results in the fact that no Prussian village mourns NEW YORK, August 21.

#### PUTS SOLE BURDEN OF BLAME ON THE KAISER

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Will you permit me to give expression to I express no a small portion of that opinion of the responsibilities. American people on Germany's present that the present issues are, or s situation develop where the issues remarkable statement recently published a question between the old order n New York papers?

remarkable statement recently published in New York papers?

The responsibility for the present war lies at Germany alone. In spite of having to keep pace with France in arithmetical progression Germany and easily and oversea commerce that it could not compete with Germany it a peaceful way, so it resolved to small its competitor, no international law as yet preventing. Yes, it is England's economic necessity if she will not fall into peaceful desure the commerce —cunnot feed herself, not even London. England started to build dreadnoughts and superdreadnoughts. Germany knew what that meant. Germany had to build new warships and tax its country's resources to the utmost. "Proud Ablon" was too much a coward to measure lengths with Germany alone.

Germany alone.

Germany alone.

Germany alone the destance of their wealth people to part with quite a share of their wealth for the saving of the Fatherland.

Russia, repulsed by Japan in the East, now turns west its mouth of rapacity.

England, fanning the French flame of vengeance and the Russian flame of v

With all sympathy for the German people as such, simple, kindly, home loving folk plunged into misery and suffering the bearing the brunt of conflict, while we wait to see which side may have the heaviest battalions, goes beyond a by the madness of their masters, perhaps greatest comfort which can be of- cowardice.

### A GENTLE HINT TO

we should imagine ourselves bound by any other allegiance except to the Stars and Stripes.

We believe we express the centiments of ation as proposed by our humane and

> The difficulty with our German Am can friends is that they are far concerned with the success of the plans of the military staff at Earather than with the humanitarian deavors at Washington.

> Is it possible that our pro-German citizens are also under the mystic spell of the Mailed Fist?

Let such petitions be drawn and signe by the several groups of naturalized cit zens here, and each one be carried over and presented by the Red Cross con-tingent delegation from this side for the work of mercy and relief to the unhappy victims of this lapse into the Stone Age DAVID GORDON

neutrality. I New York, August 20.

#### PLEA FOR EXPRESSION OF PUBLIC OPINION

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: It will President Wilson's unfortunate if earnest and sincere appeal for modera-tion of expression be construed to require a cessation of all discussion relative to the issues now at stake in the Europe

A war on such a gigantic scale as this, with the accompanying slaughter of thousands who have not the least quar-rel with one another, is an evil and monstrous thing. Whatever persons, institutions or conditions may prove to be re sponsible for it deserve to be held up to the abhorrence of mankind, that hereafter their example or influence may b shunned and avoided.

I express no opinion here as to the esponsibilities. But should it appear that the present issues are, or should new, "our side of this question is settled

deaf ears?

And what we do not give freely we cannot be scared into by the threat of pan-Slavic domination and barbarism—a bogy man materialized over night to give semblance of justice to Germany's ambition to dominate Europe and through Europe the world. True, the last hours of Germany's victims may be eased by their gratitude to the Kaiser for having rescued them from Russian barbarism, but we doubt if their extremity would welcome more the keen edged sword of civilized Germany than barbaric Russia's.

With all sympathy for the German peo-

counsel of perfection and reaches moral requisite to develop public opinion some the end of militarism in Europe.

John Ridgway.

New York, August 21.

And at in the course of the discussions requisite to develop public opinion some unfortunately may exceed the bounds of moderation and give expression to opinions distasteful or perhaps even abhoremt to the majority let them be unmo-NTLE HINT TO lested in order that they may serve, in the words of Jefferson, "as monuments to the safety with which error of opinion may be tolerated if macon but to the majority let them be unmother than the majority let them be unmother than the majority let them be unmother than the majority let them be unmother to the majority let them be unmother than the more than the more than the majority let them be unmother than the more than the majority let them be unmother than the more than the majority let them be unmother than the majority let them be unmother than the more than may be tolerated if reason be left free to combat it."

A. C. PLEYDELL.

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